

such person may be thereupon convicted of a misdemeanour, and shall be, at the discretion of the Court before which the conviction shall take place, liable to undergo the pains and penalties now by law imposed upon persons guilty of wilful and corrupt perjury.

XIV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing herein contained shall in any wise affect the right of the said Commissioners in Bankruptcy or Insolvency, to judge how far the answers to be made are satisfactory, or to commit to prison in case they shall hold such answers to be unsatisfactory, nor the right of any such Commissioner or the creditor of any such Bankrupt or Insolvent, to withhold his signature from the Certificate of conformity.

Nothing to affect right of Commissioner of Bankrupts, &c., to judge how far answers are satisfactory, &c.

XV. And whereas a practice has prevailed in the said Province of receiving and administering oaths and affidavits voluntarily made and taken in matters on the subject of any judicial inquiry not in any wise pending or at issue before the Justice of the Peace or other person by whom such oaths and affidavits have been administered or received; And whereas doubts have arisen, whether or not such proceeding is illegal, for the more effectual suppression of such practice and removing such doubts, Be it therefore enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any Justice of the Peace or other person in the said Province, to administer or receive, or cause or allow to be administered or received, any oath, solemn affirmation or affidavit touching any matter or thing whereof such Justice or other person hath not jurisdiction or cognizance by some statute in force at the time being; Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to extend to any oath, solemn affirmation or affidavit before any Commissioner, appointed in Lower Canada under and by virtue of any statute there in force to take affidavits therein, or before any Justice

Recital.

No Justice, &c., to administer oaths touching any matter whereof he may not by law have cognizance.

Proviso.